



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL**

1650 ARCH STREET
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19103

DATE: November 27, 2019

PREPARED BY: SA (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

CASE #: OI-HQ-2016-CFR-0068

CROSS REFERENCE #: COMP-2016-71

TITLE: Unknown Subject: Alleged Procurement Integrity Act Violation, Office of Air and Radiation

CASE CLOSING REPORT

Subject(s)	Location	Other Data
Unknown Subject	Research Triangle Park, NC	
Unknown Subject	Washington, DC	

POTENTIAL VIOLATION:

1. 41 U.S. Code § 2102 (formerly 41 U.S.C. Section 423) - Prohibitions on disclosing and obtaining procurement information

ALLEGATION:

On April 15, 2016, the Office of the Inspector General, Office of Investigations, Research Triangle Park (RTP), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), RTP, NC received a complaint alleging a potential Procurement Integrity Act violation concerning EPA Contract EP-D-16-009. The contract was awarded to Trinity Engineering Associates, Inc. (Trinity), Cincinnati, OH. The losing bidder was SC&A, Inc. (SC&A), Reston, VA. SC&A filed a protest of this contract award with the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) citing, amongst other things, a potential organizational conflict of interest (OCI). In Trinity's rebuttal, they indicated that SC&A possessed Trinity's proprietary information from their proposal. This investigation was opened to determine whether any of Trinity's proprietary information was provided to SC&A by EPA.

FINDINGS:

OI conducted interviews of personnel on the contract's technical evaluation panel (TEP) and of the contracting officer (CO). OI also conducted records reviews and email reviews. The interviews and other reviews did not yield sufficient information to suggest Trinity's proprietary information was provided to SC&A by any EPA personnel.

During OI's interview of the EPA CO, it was determined that contract EP-D-16-009 was subsequently cancelled due to various issues to include the GAO protest and the potential OCI. As such, the contract was to be resolicited. It was further learned that (b) (6), (b) (7)(C),

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(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) had once informed the CO that (b) (6) had commented to someone with SC&A that (b) (6) did not vote for Trinity.

DISPOSITION: Inconclusive; Closed

Sufficient information was not developed to suggest a violation of 41 U.S.C. § 2102 had occurred; therefore, this investigation was not presented for criminal prosecution. Based on the following: (1) EPA's Office of Acquisition Management cancelled the contract award due to various issues to include the GAO protest and potential OCL, (2) the EPA contracting office is fully aware of (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) comment to SC&A, and (3) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) it is believed that continued investigation would not be cost effective nor in the best interests of the government. As such this investigation is closed in this office.



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
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1301 CONSTITUTION AVENUE NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20004

DATE: December 9, 2019

PREPARED BY: SA (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

CASE #: OI-HQ-2018-ADM-0079

CROSS REFERENCE

TITLE (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), SES, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) et al.

CASE CLOSING REPORT

Subject(s)	Location	Other Data
(b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	Washington, DC	

VIOLATIONS: 5 U.S.C § 2302(b)(2) – Prohibited Personnel Practices

ALLEGATION: On March 8, 2018 and March 9, 2018 respectively, the Washington Field Office, Office of Investigation, Office of Inspector General, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) received information from two anonymous sources concerning an allegation of prohibited personnel practices by EPA management. The sources reported that (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), EPA, interfered in the hiring process of a new law enforcement applicant on behalf of (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) EPA. The applicant was identified as (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

FINDINGS: The results of the investigation showed that (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) involvement in the hiring of (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) was a result of a request (b) (6) received from (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) In an e-mail message sent to (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) recommended (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) for employment, and subsequently, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) hired (b) (6), (b) (7)(C). After completing all logical investigative steps, the results of this investigation as it relates to the allegation are inconclusive. This matter was declined by the United States Attorney's Office on October 29, 2018.

DISPOSITION: No further investigative action is warranted. This investigation is hereby closed.

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UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
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1301 CONSTITUTION AVENUE NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20004

DATE: January 13, 2020

PREPARED BY: SA (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

CASE #: OI-HQ-2019-ADM-0053

CROSS REFERENCE

TITLE Unknown Subject: Misappropriation of EPA Funds

CASE CLOSING REPORT

Subject(s)	Location	Other Data
Unknown	Washington, DC	

VIOLATIONS: 18 U.S.C § 641 – Public money, property or records

ALLEGATION: On March 7, 2019, the Washington Field Office (WFO), Office of Investigations (OI), Office of Inspector General (OIG), EPA of an EPA OIG Hotline complaint concerning an allegation of misuse of EPA funds. According to the information contained in the Hotline report, (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) HQ, Washington, DC, reported that several years ago, the Army Corps of Engineers used EPA funds to pay for labor not related to the EPA's superfund projects. Based on the information contained in the Hotline report, the EPA was overcharged by \$240,000 in labor.

FINDINGS: The results of the investigation revealed that the USACE Inspector General investigated (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) concerns, and the results showed that the USACE could improve the methods used to charge the EPA for transparency purposes. Additionally, executives from both agencies, USACE and EPA, are actively working together to improve the methods employed in charging the EPA Superfund. However, the allegations of the EPA being overcharged by \$240,000 was not supported.

DISPOSITION: No further investigative action is warranted. This investigation is hereby closed.

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1301 CONSTITUTION AVE., NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20004

DATE: FEBRUARY 19, 2020

PREPARED BY: SA (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

CASE #: OI-HQ-2020-CCR-0015

CROSS REFERENCE #: N/A

TITLE: UNKNOWN SUBJECT: EMAIL SCAM OF EPA-ORD EMPLOYEE

CASE CLOSING REPORT

Subject(s)	Location	Other Data
Unknown	Research Triangle Park	N/A

VIOLATION(S): Phishing, Scam of EPA Employee

ALLEGATIONS: (b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) (6), (b) (7)(C), Environmental Protection Agency, was the victim of a phishing scheme in which (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) was scammed out of \$400 dollars of Amazon gift cards by a scam sent to (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) official EPA email account. The \$400 dollars in Amazon gift cards were purchased by (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) using (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) personal funds.

FINDINGS: Supported. (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) was scammed out of \$400 dollars in gift cards by a scam sent to (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) official EPA email account. Attempts to identify the subject(s) and trace the gift cards met with negative results. No threats or vulnerabilities were identified within the EPA system and (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) did not believe (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) was targeted due to (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) position/employment at the EPA. There is no loss to the EPA.

DISPOSITION: This matter was reported to Amazon and to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.